

ABSTRACT

5 The present invention refers to methods for establishing control signaling between nodes connected to the same communication link, said link carrying a bitstream that is divided into frames, each frame in turn being divided into time slots, said time slot being allocatable to define circuit switched channels.

10 According to the invention, all nodes connected to said link using, at link start-up, the same predefined time slot or set of time slots in said frames to receive control signaling messages from and transmit control signaling messages to nodes connected to said link. The nodes then establishes, using control signaling via said
15 predefined time slot or set of time slots, respective control channels, defined by respective time slot or set of time slots in said frames, reserved for transmission of control signaling messages from each respective one of said nodes. Based thereupon, each respective one of said
20 nodes uses, when having been established such a respective control channel, said control channel to transmit control signaling messages to other nodes connected to said link, the other nodes accessing this control channel only for receiving control signaling
25 messages.

Elected for publication: Fig. 5